

# TONTO National Forest



Recreation  
Opportunity  
Guide

[www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto)



HIKING AND TRAIL RIDING

## ABBHEY'S WAY 151

### RANGER DISTRICT

Pleasant Valley Ranger Station  
P.O. Box 450  
Young, Arizona 85554  
Phone (928) 462-4300 Fax (928) 462-4366

### TRAILHEADS (TH)

Peterson TH  
Aztec TH

### TERMINI

**West end:** From State Hwy. 288 drive east on Forest Road (FR) 487 for 3 1/4 miles. There is parking for several vehicles on the west side of Forest Road (FR) 487 across from the trail

**East end:** Near the end of Forest Road (FR) 487, a short distance from Aztec Peak Lookout Tower

### TRAIL INFORMATION

**Trail use:** Light

**Trail difficulty:** More difficult

**Trail length:** 2.0 miles

**Season of Use:** Spring, summer, fall

**USGS maps:** Aztec Peak

**Elevation:** 820 feet

**Highest:** 7720 feet

**Lowest:** 6900 feet

### TRAIL NARRATIVE

Abbey's Way leaves Forest Road (FR) 387 to the northeast and heads towards a mountain meadow, which was part of an old homestead. The trail then climbs directly up the pine and Douglas fir-covered slopes of Aztec Peak towards the lookout tower. It includes some switchbacks near the top. The trail wraps around the peak and meets FR 487 just east of the top of the peak.

### ATTRACTIONS

- Trail is surrounded by beautiful mixed-conifer forest.
- The meadow that the trail borders is very susceptible to damage.
- Distant views from Aztec Peak Lookout Tower (when accessible)
- Edward Abbey (1927-1989) environmental writer worked for two seasons as a lookout at Aztec Peak and made reference to it in one of his books.

### CONSIDERATIONS

- Closed to motor vehicles
- Travelers should be prepared for strenuous exercise at high altitude.
- Trail is sometimes blocked by snow in winter
- If you PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- All livestock should be kept out of the meadow at all times.
- Much of the area around this trail burned in the Coon Creek Fire of April 2000. It will take many years for it to recover.

